

## **Numbers Behind the Baby Billboard**

According to the 2007 US Census there are 302 million people in the US. 24.59%, or more than 74 million, are under the age of eighteen. According to these numbers each of these children will inherit an obligation to pay a share of the near \$13 trillion that has been accumulated over a mere decade, and that share will be \$175,056.35. Attached to that is a very real estimate of \$50 trillion for social security and health care that will be needed for the coming (and, in some cases, present) retirement of nearly 80 million baby boomers. This \$50 trillion is a fair estimate as it accounts for each boomer collecting \$625,000 in entitlements, bringing the total inherited debt for these youngsters to \$848,350.03. [Readers: note that this number assumes that the debt will not increase due to the ongoing malfeasance of elected officials and that only these 74 million Americans will be responsible for the burden].

Detractors to this argument will make truthful claims that not all boomers will collect that much; some will die, others will have their own supplemental health care plans, and a few will have made too much money to be eligible for the payments despite their forced contribution through withholding. Another argument is that if health care is completely socialized under the reign of the government, then the elderly will not be afforded the care they need since they would be denied as a result of being unable to contribute any longer to the nation's coffers. This is one area where it becomes personal. Another deals with the nation's youth.

Read more at:

Suite101: The National Deficit and Our Children's Debt: Taking Care of Today's Mistakes Tomorrow  
[http://americanaffairs.suite101.com/article.cfm/our\\_childrens\\_debt#ixzz0m1jK8Ou](http://americanaffairs.suite101.com/article.cfm/our_childrens_debt#ixzz0m1jK8Ou)